The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Season of the Trinity July 14, 2019

Jesus is not one of many ways to approach God, nor is He the best of several ways; He is the only way."

—A. W. Tozer

"The gospel comes to the sinner at once with nothing short of complete forgiveness as the starting-point of all his efforts to be holy. It does not say, "Go and sin no more, and I will not condemn thee." It says at once, "Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more.""

-Horatius Bonar

"It is not thy hold on Christ that saves thee; it is Christ. It is not thy joy in Christ that saves thee; it is Christ. It is not even thy faith in Christ, though that be the instrument; it is Christ's blood and merit."

—Charles Spurgeon

If anyone should ask me what I mean by a Calvinist, I should reply, "He is one who says, Salvation is of the Lord." I cannot find in Scripture any other doctrine than this. It is the essence of the Bible."

—Charles Spurgeon

EXECUTE CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Edwards

Psalm 118

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Let the house of Aaron say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Let those who fear the LORD say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

M HYMN OF STRENGTH

"Soldiers of Christ, Arise"

Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armor on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies
Through His eternal Son.
Strong in the Lord of hosts,
And in His mighty pow'r,
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
Is more than conqueror.

Stand then in His great might,
With all His strength endued;
And take, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God.
From strength to strength go on,
Wrestle and fight and pray;
Tread all the pow'rs of darkness down,
And win the well-fought day.

Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul;
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole.
That having all things done,
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone,
And stand complete at last.

Words: Charles Wesley (1749). Music: DIADEMATA.

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Tracy Stephens

Joel 2:12-17, 28-32

"Yet even now," declares the LORD,

"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD your God?

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 consecrate a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
 16 gather the people.
 Consecrate the congregation;
 assemble the elders;
 gather the children,
 even nursing infants.
 Let the bridegroom leave his room,
 and the bride her chamber.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations.
Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" 28"And it shall come to pass afterward,
 that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;
 your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
 your old men shall dream dreams,
 and your young men shall see visions.
 29 Even on the male and female servants
 in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

³⁰"And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³²And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

M HYMN OF PRAISE

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"

Praise to the Lord the Almighty, The King of creation; O my soul praise Him For He is thy health and salvation. All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near; Join me in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord Who o'er all things So wondrously reigneth; Shelters thee under His wings, Yes so gently sustaineth. Hast thou not seen How all thy longings have been Granted in what He ordaineth.

Praise to the Lord Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee. Surely His goodness and mercy Here daily attend thee; Ponder anew What the Almighty can do, If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord O let all that is in me adore Him.
All that hath life and breath, Come now with praises before Him.
Let the amen Sound from His people again.
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Words: based on Psalm 103, Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt. 1990. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN.

M PRAYER OF ADORATION

READING FROM ACTS

Acts 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

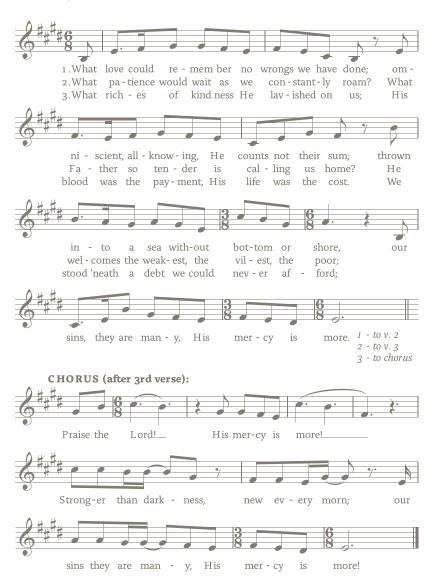
"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

MHYMN OF SALVATION

"His Mercy is More"



Words and Music: Matt Papa.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"Depth of Mercy"

Chancel Choir

Depth of mercy!
Can there be mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear,
Me, the "Chief of Sinners," spare?
The "Chief of Sinners" spare?

There for me the Savior stands Holding forth His wounded hands. God is love! I know, I feel Jesus weeps and loves me still, Jesus weeps and loves me still. He loves me still.

Words: Charles Wesley. Music: David Rasbach.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Charles Banks Alexander

SON OF ROSEMARY AND TRIPP ALEXANDER

PARENTAL VOWS

- 1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
- 3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE BAPTISM

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

M PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

Children's Worship Information

Summer Children's Worship is available for rising 4K through 3rd grades. Please read the details below regarding dismissal from the sanctuary and classroom assignments. If you are a guest and have not checked your child into our system, please visit the nursery welcome desk (1st floors) to receive a name tag and pickup details.

- Rising 4K & Kindergarten | C221; available for the entire worship hour
- Rising 1st through 3rd | C316; dismissed during the Passing of the Peace*

*Children on the main level will dismiss through the door leading into the Fellowship Hall, and children in the balcony will dismiss through the door closest to the elevator.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors and members, please take a moment to fill out the pew pad with your full name and names of any family members attending with you. You may read all of our ministry announcements on page 21.

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Clay Wheeler

® READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Ephesians 6:17a

...and take the helmet of salvation...

All flesh is like grass,
And all its glory is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever.

MESSAGE

"THE HELMET OF SALVATION"		
Marty Crawford		

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All who are united in Christ Jesus by faith and are baptized, communing members of His visible Church are invited to come to the Lord's Table. An usher will prompt each pew when it is time to come forward to receive the bread and the cup, and then you will return to your seat. If you are not communing but would like to participate, please come forward and cross your hands in front of your chest, and the one serving communion will pray a brief prayer for you or pronounce a blessing over you.

The congregation will read aloud the portions that are *italicized*.

Prayer of Confession

Josh Johnson

Almighty and most merciful Father;

We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against thy holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;

And we have done those things which we ought not to have done;

And there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.

 $Spare\ thou\ those, O\ God, who\ confess\ their\ faults.$

Restore thou those who are penitent;

According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;

That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,

To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

M Assurance of Pardon

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. ¹⁴ For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

-Psalm 103:11-14

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you forgiveness of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

Words of Institution

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Mark 14:22-25

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table, but you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to commemorate in this breaking of bread the death of your dear Son Jesus Christ, that we may feed on Him in our hearts by faith, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration and the Lord's Prayer

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast and united in ministry with your people in every place.

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

If you desire gluten free bread, please walk down the center aisle, either upstairs or down, and the server will provide it accordingly.

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

Congregation, please sing the Hymns for the Eucharist during Communion.

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee. Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love. Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee, Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; Not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use Every power as Thou shalt choose, Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine; It shall be no longer mine. Take my heart it is Thine own; It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure-store. Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874. Music: H. A. Cesar Malan, 1827.

"My Savior's Love

I stand amazed in the presence Of Jesus, the Nazarene, And wonder how he could love me, A sinner, condemned, unclean.

Chorus:

How marvelous, how wonderful! And my song shall ever be: How marvelous, how wonderful Is my Savior's love for me!

He took my sins and my sorrows; He made them His very own; He bore the burden to Calvary And suffered and died alone. (*Chorus*)

When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see, "Twill be my joy through the ages To sing of His love for me. (Chorus)

Words and Music: Chas. H. Gabriel.

MATTER OF THANKSGIVING

© CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Stand then in His great might,
With all His strength endued;
But take, to arm you for the fight,
The panoply of God.
Leave no unguarded place,
No weakness of the soul;
Take every virtue, every grace,
And fortify the whole.

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: July 14-20, 2019

SUNDAY, July 14 Sr. High Warm Springs Mission Trip 8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages (see page 22)

10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)

Children's Worship | Rising 4k through 3rd grades

6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Women's Study: Even Better Than Eden (Dining Room)

MONDAY, July 15

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Game On* (rising 1st-4th graders)
5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Women's Study: From Garden to Glory

(dinner \$6; Dining Room)

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. College Dinner & Study

at the Dyess' home (3408 Water Oak Dr, 35243)

TUESDAY, July 16

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Game On* (rising 1st-4th graders)

WEDNESDAY, July 17

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Game On* (rising 1st-4th graders)
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Jr. High In the House (location varies)
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Women's Summer Salad Supper

Emily Anderson sharing at the home of Mandi Smith T

(3213 Brookwood Rd. 35213)

THURSDAY, July 18

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Game On* (rising 1st-4th graders)

5:00 p.m. Senior Pastor Search Committee Information Meeting

(Sanctuary; nursery childcare available)

*pre-registration required

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (Josh Johnson, July 15-21).

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Please see our full calendar of Covenant events at covpres.com/calendar.

From the Senior Pastor Search Committee. The Senior Pastor Search Committee has made very good progress during the first half of the year. We have been primarily focused on understanding Covenant's rich history and ministries in order to identify our strengths and opportunities for growth as we look toward the future to discern what the Lord is calling us to do. Most recently, we have carefully examined the congregational survey data collected last year; we have been meeting with various leaders in the PCA; and we have surveyed and met with past and current officers and their spouses in our congregation, many of whom attended our annual church officers' and wives' retreat last month. These efforts have resulted in a comprehensive church profile and description for the office of senior pastor that we will use in connection with the search. In order to provide additional details about these documents and the committee's work so far, we'd like to invite you to attend an informational session for the congregation. We are offering two options for the session, and we hope you will be able to attend one: Thursday, July 18, 5:00 p.m. (Sanctuary) and Tuesday, July 23, 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary). We have been blessed by the calling to pursue the search for a senior pastor on behalf of the congregation, and we look forward to sharing our progress with you. Please continue to pray, as the committee moves into the next stage during which we will actively consider candidates. We know the Lord has great things in store for our church, and we are relying on the Holy Spirit to inform our search, to guide our steps and to control the outcome of the search, including its timing. We ask for patience and understanding as we move ahead. Please pray for wisdom and boldness, as we seek the man God has already chosen for His church. Covenant.

Women's Summer Salad Suppers. Ladies, join us for Summer Salad Suppers this Wednesday, July 17 at 6:30 p.m. Emily Anderson will be sharing at the home of Mandi Smith T (3213 Brookwood Rd, 35213). Visit covpres.com/womens-ministry for the full schedule.

Praise & Prayer Hymn Sing. Everyone is invited to Praise & Prayer, our second annual Hymn Sing on Sunday, August 11 at 6:00 p.m in the Fellowship Hall. This will be an evening of song and prayer, food and fellowship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

9:15 a.m.

Maps and directional signs are located around the church.

COLLEGE | SENIOR College students
PASTOR'S OFFICE

COMMUNITY | E305 All ages and life stages

CORNERSTONE | S104 30s and 40s

CROSSPOINTE | S100 20s and 30s

FOUNDATIONS | E304 30s and 40s

LIGHTHOUSE | E301 3os and 4os

LIVING STONES | E303 40s and 50s

KINGDOM BUILDERS | E201 5os and 6os

OPEN DOORS | S105 70s and above

UPPER ROOM | S101 *60s and 70s*

THRESHOLD | DINING ROOM Singles and young marrieds;

20s and 30s

YOUTH | YOUTH AREA Students grades 7-12

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Marty Crawford, Church Administrator mcrawford@covpres.com
David Driskill, Assistant Pastor ddriskill@covpres.com
Dan Edwards, Pastor to Children and Families dedwards@covpres.com
Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries ilink@covpres.com
Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor swillson@covpres.com

MINISTRY AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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RULING ELDERS

2019 2020 2021 Ty Dedmon Bill Bennett Eric Getty Russell Martin Jeff Dyess Will Brooke Rick Flynn Michael Latta Daniel Murray Warren Norville Heath Henderson Charlie Logan Sandy Stradtman Tom McKnight Paul Loyless Clay Wheeler John Smith T Bob Schaffeld

Richard Thompson Lee Sheppard

Steve Stigler Mark Taylor John Wood

DEACONS

John Shank

2019

Nick Baggett Tripp Alexander Jim Bennett Ward Bailey Paul Darden Gary Gorham Samuel Bragg Jay Evans Keith Harrelson Bryan Flores Trey Clegg Jeff Hayes Will Graham Steve Killgore John Gant Jeff Hicks Steve Pfitzer John David Gray Jim Jenkins Brent Powell Marty Martin Alan Spooner **Bud Miller** Matt Searson

Tvler O'Connor

2020

2021

Patrick Strong

Todd Sitton John Shults
William Slappey Danny Smith
Billy Tapscott Robert Stephens
Darrell Tucker Clark Worrell

BIBLE READING PLAN

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers, and hymns. The scripture readings are from Ligonier Ministries and are designed around a one-year cycle that will allow you to read through the New Testament or the entire Bible in 2019.

JULY READING PLAN

JOLI KLADING PLAI	N	
	JOB	ACTS
1	□ 21-22	□ 10:1-23
2	□ 23-24	□ 10:24-48
3	□ 25-26	□ 11
4	□ 27-29	□ 12
5	□ 30-32	□ 13:1-25
6/7	□ 33-37	□ 13:26-14:28
8	□ 38-39	□ 15:1-21
9	□ 40-42	□ 15:22-41
	PSALMS	
10	□ 1-3	□ 16:1-15
11	□ 4-6	□ 16:16-40
12	□ 7-9	□ 17:1-15
13/14	□ 10-16	□ 17:16-18:28
15	□ 17-18	□ 19:1-20
16	□ 19-21	□ 19:21-41
17	□ 22-24	□ 20:1-16
18	□ 25-27	□ 20:17-38
19	□ 28-30	□ 21:1-16
20/21	□ 31-35	□ 21:17-22:30
22	□ 36-37	□ 23:1-11
23	□ 38-40	□ 23:12-35
24	□ 41-43	□ 24
25	□ 44-46	□ 25
26	□ 47-49	□ 26
27/28	□ 50-55	□ 27
29	□ 56-58	□ 28:1-16
30	□ 59-61	□ 28:17-31
		ROMANS
31	□ 62-64	□1